

THE ROLE OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS IN REALIZING THE TRANSFORMATION OF EDUCATION IN THE DIGITAL ERA

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Abstract: Education is very important in life. Education has the goal of bringing change for the better. As the times develop, there are always changes in the world of education, one of which is in education in the digital era. Education in the digital era is education that is faced in accordance with the development of the times that are always changing. The transformation of education in the digital era requires the role of teachers and students so that it can run well. Teachers and students are the main key to the success of the digital era educational transformation. The transformation of digital education will provide maximum benefits to future generations. This research uses a qualitative approach or literature study. The results of the research show that digital education transformation greatly affects the world of education. Teachers and students have a very important role in the transformation of education in the digital era. The digital transformation of education in the digital era can be realized by the role of teachers such as being learning facilitators, utilizing technology as best as possible, and students can participate in becoming active learners, using technology and following the development of the times by developing skills and critical thinking.

Keywords: Teachers, Students, Educational Transformation, Digital Era

Introduction

Education is very important in life in the future. Every generation must attach importance to education for a better future. Education has the goal of developing the potential of students to become human beings who have faith and piety, noble character, healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent and become democratic and responsible citizens. The goal of education is change for the better.

In line with the goals of education, the education system in every era is always updated and developed. In today's digital era, the quality of education is required to be more advanced so that it is easily accessible to all groups. The creation of educational technology as one of the sources in solving problems in the world of education today. All of this cannot be separated from the role of a teacher who has a professional attitude. Teachers have a very important position that cannot be replaced by any element in the empowerment and development of learning of a nation.

A teacher is someone who plans, implements, and evaluates the learning process. Not only that, teachers also play a role in guiding students so that the goals of education can be

achieved. The creation of educational technology as one of the sources in solving problems in the world of education today. All of this cannot be separated from the role of a teacher who has a professional attitude. Teachers have a very important position that cannot be replaced by any element in the empowerment and development of learning of a nation (Verawati et al., 2023)

In an era where technology has become an integral part of daily life, education has also undergone significant changes. Teachers, who used to be the main source of knowledge in the classroom, now have to adjust to their new role as learning facilitators in the digital age (Afriani et al., 2024). In addition to teachers, students also have a very important role in realizing educational transformation in the digital era. Because progress is an inevitability that all nations want to achieve. In recent times, the world of education in Indonesia has undergone very rapid changes. This change has resulted in a change in time allocation that continues to grow rapidly. This progress requires a very important role from teachers and students so that this progress can be realized properly (Wahab et al., 2024).

Teachers and students are no longer passive as they are in the digital era. With the development of this era, the educational process carried out by teachers and students will be easier, because it has unlimited intensity and seems to be able to penetrate the walls of classroom partitions and subject matter. Innovations in the field of education must be improved to achieve better and more quality learning outcomes (Afif, 2019). Teachers are expected to be able to create learning experiences that are engaging, interactive, and relevant to the needs of the 21st century, such as critical thinking skills, creativity, communication, and teamwork. For this reason, teachers need to master various digital tools, such as learning management platforms, interactive applications, educational social media, and artificial intelligence technology. This development needs to be addressed very well in the world of education, because education in this digital era has a lot of benefits but of course it also has an impact on its use if it is not addressed properly (Yunita et al., 2023). Digital transformation that is developing very rapidly is inevitable due to the impact of the digital revolution that continues to progress. This transformation is what gives rise to a new paradigm in learning methods. But that doesn't mean there aren't challenges in it (Aryani et al., 2025).

In this context, teacher training and technology integration are the keys to the success of educational transformation in the digital era. In addition, the role of students to be involved is also very important so that it can run well. Because this digital revolution will open the door to a more open world of education. Teachers and students must be equipped with adequate digital skills so that educational transformation can be optimized. Deep understanding and proactive actions will shape the future of education that is responsive to the development of the times, and can provide maximum benefits for future generations (Hasnida & Adrian, 2024).

Literature Review

Technology-Based Learning is an approach that uses information and communication technology to improve the teaching and learning process. PBST has become an essential part of modern education, utilizing a variety of technological tools and platforms to enhance the learning process, increase student participation, and facilitate access to wider educational resources. Technological advances in the digital era have brought major changes in various aspects of life, including education (Purba & Saragih, 2023).

The rapid development of technology adds to the portion of demands of a teacher (Istiqomah et al., 2024). Teachers in today's digital era are required to master and utilize technology in designing innovative and creative learning. According to Fitriah D & Miranda 2019, the students faced by teachers today are the generation that grew up in the midst of technological developments, where they are familiar with digital technology. This shows that

teachers as one of the main elements in the world of education, are obliged to always upgrade their competency skills so that they are ready to face the development of educational technology

In today's digital era, the teacher's job is not only to present information, but teachers must be able to become facilitators and motivators who must give time to their students in exploring their learning abilities in finding and processing learning information on their own. Therefore, teachers must be able to take advantage of the availability of technological information in adding insight and skills in designing and providing creative and varied methods, so that the learning environment for students can increase (Sadriani & Arifin, 2023).

The education system in Indonesia is vast, dispersed, and complex, making transformation a challenge. However, Indonesia has chosen the right approach by utilizing technology to support policy implementation. With the majority of people using smartphones, a mobile-based approach was chosen to improve accessibility. It is also supported by laptop distribution initiatives to strengthen the school's ICT infrastructure. In the face of improving the quality of education in today's digital era, teachers often experience obstacles and challenges in their teaching process (Suwahyu, 2024). The following are the challenges that teachers must face in the world of education in the digital era: first, the development of technology and information has an impact on the rapid development of science. Second, behavior, morals and manners are declining. Third, the rampant crime rate, violence, and the increasing number of unemployed and poverty.

A situation like this, of course, requires competent teachers in order to equip their students with the ability so that their students are able to face and fight the currents that are happening and continue to change in this digital era. This change in role also requires teachers to adjust to the broader digital education environment. Teachers can no longer work alone, but must be part of a digital learning community, share resources, and collaborate with peers through social media or cloud education platforms.

Readiness to accept technological changes is an important sign of teacher professionalism today. This change in role also requires teachers to adjust to the broader digital education environment. Teachers can no longer work alone, but must be part of a digital learning community, share resources, and collaborate with peers through social media or cloud education platforms. Readiness to accept technological changes is an important sign of teacher professionalism today. The professionalism of teachers in the digital era is reflected in their ability to manage time, prioritize the use of technology, and maintain digital ethics in learning. It is not only about technical ability, but also includes a responsible attitude, integrity, and awareness of the influence of technology on students' learning character and culture. The success of teachers in facing digital changes is also influenced by the support of school management and education policies. Schools that provide opportunities to experiment with technology and regular training help teachers feel more confident in carrying out their new roles (Jannah, 2025).

Thus, digital transformation not only changes teaching methods, but also strengthens the position of teachers as learning leaders who are adaptive and in accordance with the demands of the times.

Several trainings related to the use of onteractive learning media for teachers are both elementary school and college teachers. Teachers are also actively involved in activities, such as listening to presenters' explanations, reading training materials, asking questions, expressing opinions, and participating in creating online learning media. In the training on the optimization of interactive and innovative learning media that is carried out, there are obstacles faced, namely that there are still many educators and students who do not have communication tools that can support the implementation of learning. Therefore, the method of providing motivation is applied as an alternative solution to overcome these obstacles (Yunita et al., 2023).

This is done with the aim that educators and students remain motivated in developing creativity in creating interactive and innovative learning media, even though there are still obstacles that must be faced (Riyadi et al., 2025). The selection of media tools is carried out based on the results of surveys that have been conducted previously. The results of the service show that Google Site use training can improve participants' knowledge, competence, and skills in creating and using Google Sites as an innovative learning medium. (Adiba et al., 2023).

Irmawati Tahir et al., said in their research that one of the things that can be done in realizing digital education transformation is through training stages such as:

- a. Human Resources (HR) Training: Organizing a series of digital literacy workshops and training for teachers, covering the use of digital platforms, content creation, and technology integration in learning.
- b. Infrastructure Development: Assist schools in building or optimizing digital laboratories, internet network installations, and cloud-based Learning Management System (LMS) implementations.
- c. Digital Curriculum Content Development: Assist teachers and students in creating 50 relevant learning digital content, such as educational videos, local applications, and interactive teaching materials (Jtcsa & Thahir, 2025).

Technology continues to drive educational innovation by creating new tools and platforms that make the teaching and learning process more effective, interactive, and inclusive. Examples are the development of educational applications and online learning platforms that support interaction between students and teachers (Handayan et al., 2025). Technology enables effective communication between students and teachers. Instant messaging apps and online collaboration platforms make it easy for students to contact teachers to ask questions or discuss (Alfi et al., 2023).

Transformation means change that is directed towards good, that is, changing all aspects of education such as learning, management procedures, and everything related to education to make it better or more up-to-date, as Rose and Belly explain. These changes aim to improve the quality of education and make it more relevant to the needs of the times. In addition, the role of teachers also includes the use of advanced educational technology to support the learning process. By integrating technology into teaching, teachers can increase student participation, expand access to information, and help develop students' digital abilities. Educational transformation needs to be carried out gradually and sustainably, because in the era of the industrial revolution 4.0, all aspects continue to develop along with the progress of the times (Khoirul et al., 2025).

Teachers need to make the most of collaboration and professional networks. In the digital age, teachers can connect with fellow teachers, experts, and other education stakeholders around the world. With this collaboration, they can share knowledge, experience, and best practices in digital learning, as well as expand their understanding of global education trends. By taking advantage of these opportunities, teachers can develop innovative, relevant, and effective learning methods in the digital era. They are ready to equip students to face the future, develop the skills needed, and create a learning atmosphere that encourages cooperation, creativity, and problem-solving (Husna et al., 2023).

Therefore, an innovative and adaptive approach is needed in transforming education, as suggested by Hopkins, to improve the quality of student learning outcomes and strengthen schools' ability to manage change. Educators play a vital role in shaping individuals who are ready to face global challenges. Teachers, as the main figures in education, have an important role from the beginning of education to adulthood. According to Ridwan Giroux, teachers not

only play a role as facilitators, but also as agents of change that are influential in shaping the social structure of society (Savira, 2023).

Method

This study uses a qualitative approach with a literature study method. This approach is carried out to analyze the transformation of education in the digital era. This approach was chosen because the topics discussed have been widely carried out in various previous studies in completing the research process. The qualitative approach is research that focuses on an in-depth understanding of social phenomena from the perspective of participants, using observation and document analysis.

Data collection is carried out by reviewing and analyzing various scientific sources and previous researches. The search was conducted through Google Scholar and other sources that support and are in accordance with this research. The data analyzed to examine existing theories also discuss and enrich new findings.

Results and Discussion

Advances in information and communication technology have brought major changes in various fields, including education. The transition to the digital era requires adjustments in the learning process, both from methods, media, and the role of educators themselves. In the digital era, the role of teachers has changed from a presenter of information to a facilitator and motivator who provides opportunities for students to develop their own learning abilities. Teachers must utilize technology to improve their insights and skills in designing creative and varied learning methods, so that students' interest in learning can increase.

Teachers must master science, technology, and information to be applied in the learning process. They must also be good examples for students with positive attitudes and behaviors. Teachers need to increase their commitment and love for their profession as teachers and educators, so that they are more sincere in carrying out their duties. In addition, teachers must also master various learning methods, models, and strategies to be applied in the teaching and learning process.(Sadriani & Arifin, 2023).

Technology allows students from various locations to access online learning materials, expanding access to education especially in remote areas. However, reliance on technology can reduce students' social and emotional skills, as well as hinder their ability to think critically without digital assistance. Not all students have equal access to digital devices and the internet, creating a gap in learning opportunities. The internet also contains inaccurate or misleading information, which can affect students' understanding if they are not trained to verify the accuracy of the information

In today's digital era, digital literacy skills are very important for students. Therefore, the role of teachers is very critical in overcoming challenges and improving students' digital literacy in schools. One effective way is to improve the digital skills of teachers themselves. Teachers need to attend training or workshops to get to know digital tools that can be used in learning and improve their understanding of educational technology.

Teachers also need to motivate students to think critically, creatively, and innovatively. They inspire students to explore new ideas, create unique solutions, and produce original work with existing technology. In addition, teachers also act as collaborators and learning network liaison, working closely with fellow teachers, students, and stakeholders to design relevant curricula, share experiences, and develop best practices in digital learning.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the above study, it is known that the goal of education is change for the better. The transformation of digital education has greatly affected the world of education. Teachers and students have a very important role in the transformation of education in the digital era. The digital transformation of education in the digital era can be realized by the role of teachers such as being learning facilitators, utilizing technology as best as possible, and students can participate in becoming active learners, using technology and following the development of the times by developing skills and critical thinking.

Teachers also need to motivate students to think critically, creatively, and innovatively. They inspire students to explore new ideas, create unique solutions, and produce original work with existing technology. Teachers also act as collaborators and learning network liaison, working closely with fellow teachers, students, and stakeholders to design relevant curricula, share experiences, and develop best practices in digital learning. One effective way is to improve the digital skills of teachers themselves. Teachers need to attend training or workshops to get to know digital tools that can be used in learning and improve their understanding of educational technology.

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